

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (amended) A substantially pure composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells, wherein at least 95% of the cells in said composition are characterized as $c\text{-}kit}^{\text{lo}}$, IL-7R α^+ , lin $^-$; and wherein said progenitor cells are capable of giving rise to T cells, B cells and natural killer cells.

2. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are blast cells.

3. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are further characterized as Thy-1 $^+$.

4. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are mouse cells, and are further characterized as Sca-1 $^{\text{lo}}$.

5. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are further characterized as CD43 $^{\text{lo}}$, HSA $^{\text{lo}}$, CD45 $^+$ and MEL-14 $^+$.

6. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are genetically modified to comprise an exogenous DNA vector.

7. (original) A method of enrichment for a composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells, wherein at least 95% of the cells in said composition are characterized as $c\text{-}kit}^{\text{lo}}$, IL-7R α^+ , lin $^-$; and wherein said progenitor cells are capable of giving rise to T cells, B cells and natural killer cells, the method comprising:

combining reagents that specifically recognize $c\text{-}kit$, IL-7R α and lin markers with a sample of hematopoietic cells; and

selecting for those cells that are $c\text{-}kit}^{\text{lo}}$, IL-7R α^+ , lin $^-$, to provide an enriched population of cells having lymphoid lineage progenitor activity.

8. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said sample of hematopoietic cells is bone marrow.

9. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said sample of hematopoietic cells is mobilized peripheral blood.

10. (original) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of selecting by size for blast cells.

11. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said cells are mouse cells, and further comprising the steps of:

combining reagents that specifically recognize Sca-1 with said sample of hematopoietic cells;
and

selecting for those cells that are Sca-1^{lo}.

~~12-18 (canceled)~~